

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Ninth Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of Ninth Worcester Representative District

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.3% (352) reside in the Ninth Worcester Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (67) of Ninth Worcester Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 76.4% of admissions from the Ninth Worcester Representative District were male and 23.6% were female.
  - Over 59.4% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
  - 90.3% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.3% were black non-Latino, 4.6% were Latino, and 2.8% were other racial categories.
  - 58.8% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 17.9% were married, and 15.6% reported not to be married now.
  - 27.6% of admissions had less than high school education, 47.7% completed high school, and 24.7% had more than high school education.
  - 51.9% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
  - 5.9% of those admitted were homeless.
- 8.5% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Ninth Worcester Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>Ninth Worcester Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	281	245	102	51	33	47	32
<b>FY '96</b>	274	245	93	50	22	45	25
<b>FY '97</b>	293	258	93	54	28	60	48
<b>FY '98</b>	297	249	107	51	27	61	46
<b>FY '99</b>	402	336	118	78	50	89	66
<b>FY '00</b>	332	272	139	64	55	96	71
<b>FY '01</b>	352	269	102	40	24	89	68

- Since FY 1995, residents of Ninth Worcester Representative District reported an increase in alcohol and heroin use. Alcohol use increased by 9%, and heroin use by 89%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting cocaine and crack use decreased, while marijuana use remained steady.

**Primary Substance of Use:**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Ninth Worcester Representative District.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	59.7%	23.3%	11.7%	0.6%	2.8%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin, cocaine and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and marijuana was higher within your District.